

Minutes of the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency
January 22, 2007

Present: Chairman T. J. Brooker, Darrell Carman, Thomas Cotter, Marion Esty; and Sharon Hobart-Hardin

Absent: None

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Margaret Boutell, Community Services Director; Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder; and Jeneca Jones, West Lane News

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brooker called the Veneta Urban Renewal Meeting to order at 10:10 p.m.

2. URBAN RENEWAL PLAN UPDATE

The Agency accepted the final draft of the plan from Jeff Tashman and wanted staff to proceed with forwarding the plan to the other taxing districts. Ric said Amie will continue to work on the action plan. Ric said if the Agency wanted to take any action on the street lamp installation at the Key Bank site, it should be done now. The cost would be \$10,000 to \$20,000.

The design plan for sidewalks and lighting called for a different design than would be at the Key Bank site. There was much discussion whether to keep the design consistent with the West Broadway focus area. The Agency also needs to decide what to do with the corner of W. Broadway and Territorial.

Tom and Darrell asked what the owner wanted to do with the property. Ric said Lee Kelley has been waiting for the City to make an offer at fair market value. Ric suggested a community kiosk and commercial space.

Mayor Brooker asked if the City should obtain an option or should it be an outright purchase. Darrell asked if Urban Renewal funds could be

used. Ric said yes.

Darrell said if the sidewalk isn't done the way the plan is written, why have a plan. Ric agreed.

Sharon felt the Agency is being pressured by Key Bank to make a decision and it's taking the control out of the City's hands. She wanted to say no for now and focus on the City's entry way at Territorial and W. Broadway.

Mayor Brooker agreed and said the lights would add to the Key Banks site and not to the City's plan. He felt the City should develop a show-case property and use the property on the corner of Territorial and W. Broadway as a gateway.

Tom thought part of the gateway to the downtown area would include Luther Lane and asked what was happening with the ODOT property.

Ric said several things were going on with Luther Lane and the City will probably have to purchase it. ODOT wanted a concept of what a Transit Center might entail. Ric said LTD would be happy to participate but they're about a year out before they would be able to help with that project. ODOT has decided not to liquidate the property and are attempting to reduce the cost for the City to purchase the property.

Tom asked if it was a logical next step to take to get a preliminary design at Territorial and W. Broadway.

Ric said, yes, but felt that Key Bank was moving too fast for the City

to participate in adding the street lamps along at their site.

Darrell suggested the Agency drop the street lamp installation at the Key Bank site. Everyone agreed that the City shouldn't be rushed into making a decision if it wasn't what the plan called for.

3. APPROVAL OF ANY ACTION TAKEN AT WORK SESSION

None

4. ADJOURN

Mayor Brooker adjourned the Veneta Urban Renewal Meeting at 10:26 p.m.

T. J. Brooker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder
(minutes prepared by dhenneman)